The Doctoral Program

Columbia Business School’s Doctoral Program offers a world-class PhD Program for students interested in pursuing a career in research and/or teaching in five specialized divisions: Accounting; Decision, Risk, and Operations; Finance; Management; and Marketing. The rigorous program prepares students to move on to careers that help shape new business ideas and practices and influence future generations of business leaders.

Learn More About the PhD Program at Columbia Business School

Connect with us by visiting our website and signing up for information about the PhD program. You’ll receive an invitation to an upcoming colloquium and reception, learn more about our admissions and application process, and connect with staff, faculty and students. Visit us online at www.gsb.columbia.edu/programs/doctoral-program for answers to frequently asked questions, or visit us on campus to learn more about Columbia Business School’s dynamic and diverse community.

Get Started

The application opens on August 1, 2019 and closes on January 7, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. EST for the class entering in the upcoming fall semester. We welcome your questions and invite you to connect with our Admissions team by emailing phdinfo@gsb.columbia.edu.

Looking for research and thought leadership from Columbia faculty? Learn more about our faculty through our directory, read research from Ideas and Insights, and listen to Columbia Bizcast. You can join our social media community on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Academics

Throughout the program, students become familiar with research methods and the literature of their major fields through research projects and directed reading. The PhD program is full-time only and the average program completion time is five to six years.

Doctoral candidates begin the program mastering basic research tools by studying subjects such as economics, behavioral science, and quantitative methods. The completion of coursework and qualifying examinations typically requires two to three years.

The research phase begins as early as the first year, when students can serve as research assistants, and continues throughout their time at the School. Students gradually become more involved in the design and execution of research and, by the end of the second year, some have produced papers suitable for publication, often as coauthor with a faculty member. The later years of the program are dedicated to original research and the creation of a dissertation.

The Columbia Advantage

As Columbia PhD candidates, students are guided by expert faculty and are surrounded by a host of innovative academic programs. As the only Ivy League program in New York City, the Columbia Business School experience is also inseparable from the New York experience. With thousands of multinational companies, technology and consumer-facing organizations, a diverse real-estate market, and the major stock, bond, and commodity exchanges, New York is a living laboratory for our community. PhD students find the city the ideal setting for research, with practitioners nearby available to discuss research ideas and an array of industries willing to grant access to their corporate data.

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